

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Issue regarding situation caused by heavy floods in Godavari district.

SHRI RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU (NARSAPURAM): Hon. Speaker Sir, there is a crisis situation caused by heavy floods in Godavari district. Yesterday, alongwith our local Minister and Deputy Chief Minister we had also travelled in that area on boats. The main problem is that in the last two and a half days, almost 230 TMC of water has gone into the sea from the river Godavari whereas for both the crops put together, we need only 130 TMC of water for our district. We cannot stop the water from flowing down into the sea. Our Polavaram project is slightly delayed. But it is more because of the non-modernisation of the irrigation system and lack of development of the delta area. If that had been in place, we would have stored at least 30 to 40 TMC of water in our Kolleru lake and other water bodies. The main problem is that our canal system has a lot of hyacinth which has grown up massively, prohibiting the flow of water. There are almost 30 island villages and their size is coming down because of the soil erosion resulting from floods. I would request the Jal Shakti Minister to give some funds for the demarcation of the entire area with the grills. There is a proposal which we will be submitting to the hon. Minister. The Minister may also consider delta modernisation which would need around Rs. 1500 crore. We will come up with our State's share of 30 per cent and I would request the hon. Minister to consider the proposal with 70 per cent share from the Central Government. It will solve our problem permanently. In that case, flood is not an issue. Thank you.

